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FEBRUARY 17.

Mr. THOMAS MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

FEBRUARY 24.

Mr. JACOB BINDER in the chair.

Twenty-one persons present.

A New Fresh-water Sponge from Nova Scotia.—Mr. E. POTTS described a form recently identified by him as follows :—

HETEROMEYENIA PICTOUENSIS, n. sp.

Sponge light green, even when dry, massive, encrusting; texture very compact; spicules non-fasciculated, persistent; surface mostly smooth.

Gemmules very scarce, spherical, crust thick.

Skeleton spicules cylindrical, short, robust, rounded or abruptly terminated; entirely spined, spines conical at the centre of the spicule, elsewhere generally curving *forward*, or towards each extremity. Rounded terminations of spicules covered with short spines, though frequently a single large spine or acute termination is seen at one or both extremities.

Dermal spicules absent or undiscovered.

Biotulates of the longer class surrounding the gemmules, rather numerous, one-half longer than the others; shafts conspicuously fusiform or largest at the centre, where are frequently found one or more long spines. Their rotules consist of three to six irregularly placed rays, recurved at the extremities.

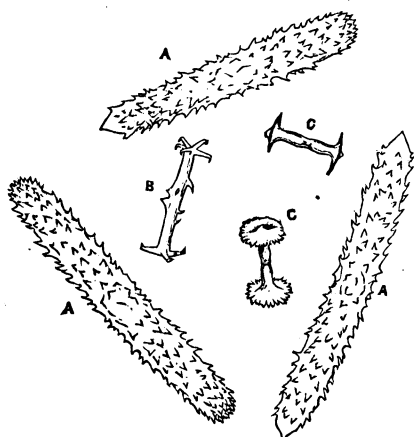
Biotulates of the shorter class abundant and compactly placed around the gemmule; shafts mostly smooth, though sometimes bearing a single spine; irregularly cylindrical, but rapidly widening to support the rotules, which are large, umbonate, nearly flat, and finely lacinulate at their margins; occasionally bearing spines.

Measurements.—Skeleton spicules 0.0075 inch long, by 0.00075 inch thick; length of long biotulates 0.0021 inch; of short biotulates 0.0012 inch; diameter of disc of latter 0.0009 inch.

Habitat.—On submerged wood, etc.

Locality.—Collected only by or for Mr. A. H. McKay, B. A., B. S., of Pictou, Nova Scotia, from several lakes upon the watershed of that region.

This beautiful and interesting sponge was first discovered by Mr.



A. A. A. Skeleton spicules; B. Long birotulate;
C. C. Short do. Magnified 250 diameters.

McKay, during the summer of 1884. At that time its novelty, as indicated by its unusually robust, entirely spined skeleton spicules was easily recognized, but the absence of gemmules at that season precluded the determination of its generic relations, and it has continued unnamed. During the last week of December, however, a further search was rewarded by the finding of other "specimens upon sticks pulled up through a break made in the ice," and amongst these a few, and but a few gemmulæ have now been discovered.

These suffice to place it clearly within the genus *Heteromeyenia*, near *H. Ryderii*, while the peculiarities of its birotulates distinguish it from that or any other species.

Mr. Potts called attention to its green and apparently living and growing condition, during midwinter, in that northern latitude, as indicating that like *Spongilla aspinosa*, of the New Jersey swamps, this species also is an "evergreen," continuing its life in the normal state throughout the year, and for this reason not needing to form "protected gemmules" in such abundance as do other species.

At the suggestion of Mr. McKay, to whose enthusiastic search we owe its discovery, the local specific *Pictouensis* has gladly been given to this species.

The following were elected members:—

Charles Harrod Vinton, M. D., Henry Leffmann, M. D., S. Frank Aaron and Edw. Longstreth.

MARCH 3.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-seven members present.

The following papers were presented for publication:—

"A Review of the American Genera and Species of Batrachidæ," by Seth E. Meek and Edw. A. Hall.